10

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

RIGHT WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE OF PENNSYLVANIA,

IN REFERENCE TO THE DEATH OF P. G. M. BROTHER

LUCIUS H. SCOTT.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION HELD AT THE MASONIC TEMPLE,

PHILADELPHIA, JUNE 3, A. D. 1875, A. L. 5875.

Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

At the Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania, held on Wednesday, June 3d, A. D. 1875, A. L. 5875, the following address commemorative of Past Grand Master, Brother

LUCIUS H. SCOTT,

was made by Past Grand Master, Brother Samuel C. Perkins, and, with the resolutions attached thereto, was unanimously approved and adopted by the Grand Lodge:

ADDRESS.

Right Worshipful Grand Master and

Brethren of Grand Lodge:

The chief and pre-eminent of the Grand Masters who presided over the Craft during the erection of the Temple at Jerusalem has said—

"There is a time to mourn,"

and such a time certainly presents itself at this Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge, when, since the last Quarterly Communication in March, death has taken from us two of the honored and revered Past Grand Masters, who have filled the Oriental Chair.

Past Grand Master James Page, whose memory Grand Lodge has but just now honored, had scarce passed away early in April, when on the 22d of the same month, Past Grand Master Lucius H. Scott was called from the earthly to the heavenly Lodge. His

life was marked by few incidents of note; but as an amiable, upright and useful citizen; and as a Mason,—firm in his attachment to the Fraternity,—blameless in his reputation,—and genial and frank in his intercourse with his brethren, who testified their appreciation of his excellent qualities; it is due that he should receive just mention upon the records of Grand Lodge in respect to his memory.

Lucius H. Scott was born March 29th, 1794, in Weathersfield, Vermont. He subsequently removed to Otsego County, New York, where he was made a Mason, in June, 1816, but little over a year after attaining his majority. In the Spring of following year he removed to Indiana, and fixed his home in the beautiful valley of the Wabash, then almost a wilderness.

October 6th, 1820, Terre Haute Lodge, No. 19, was organized under the Grand Lodge of Indiana, and Brother Scott early claimed admission, and gave his time and influence to the promotion of the beneficent teachings and practice of Freemasonry in the home of his adoption. He more than once filled the Oriental Chair as Worshipful Master by election, and was loved and esteemed by his brethren, who were among the most substantial citizens of the place, then, as now, the county seat of Vigo County. But one of his contemporaries in the Lodge survives him; but his memory is

cherished as a precious reminiscence of former days by the present members of the Lodge, many of whom are descendants of his early associates in the Brotherhood. The Lodge itself survives in a flourishing condition, and has marked its respect for the memory of Brother SCOTT, by the passage of appropriate resolutions, and draping in mourning of the Lodge furniture.

About the year 1848, he removed to Pennsylvania, and connected himself in active membership with Lodge No. 25, at Bristol, one of the very earliest still in existence on the Grand Lodge register beyond the limits of Philadelphia; No. 21 at Harrisburg and No. 22 at Sunbury, alone claiming precedence. Brother SCOTT was no indifferent or slothful Mason. He believed in the usefulness of the institution, and its substantial features as an element for the elevation of humanity. He took an active interest in the labors and welfare of the Lodge, and served in various of its offices, including that of Worshipful Master; and was ever ready with his sound and judicious counsels in the management of its affairs.

Having by virtue of his office as Past Master of Lodge No. 25, become a permanent member of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, his regular attendance upon the meetings, his intelligent interest in the measures affecting the administration of Grand Lodge affairs, his readiness to undertake and discharge any duty assigned him, his kindly and courteous and affable

demeanor in all his intercourse, did not fail to have their effect in securing for him the esteem and respect of his brethren of Grand Lodge.

He was often appointed a member of Special Committees, and from 1855 to 1857 inclusive, served upon the Committee on Correspondence, and more than once prepared its reports in a very thorough and able manner.

In December, 1858, and again in 1859, he was chosen Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden of this Grand Lodge; in December 1860 and 1861 Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden; and in December 1863 and 1864, Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master. In December, 1864, upon the declination by Right Worshipful Brother David C. Skerrett, of a re-election as Grand Master, Brother Scott was called to the East, and assumed the gavel of Grand Lodge, which he held for two years, having been re-elected December, 1865, but declining further service in 1866.

During his Grand Mastership, Grand Lodge was requested by the authorities to lay the corner-stone of the national monument in the cemetery at Gettysburg; and attended and assisted by his Grand Officers, the solemn and impressive ceremonies of the Craft usual on such occasions were conducted by Grand Master Scott, in the presence of a large civic and military concourse, and in a manner which will long

be remembered with interest and satisfaction, by those who were present.

In February, 1860, Bro. Scott became a member of Harmony R. A. Chapter, No. 52, in whose labors he took a prominent part, having filled various subordinate offices, and passing regularly through the chairs of Scribe and King, in 1863 was elected High Priest.

In private life Past Grand Master Scott was blameless. His fellow-citizens of Vigo County, Indiana, early honored him by electing him sheriff for two successive terms; and subsequently their representative to the State Legislature. In 1837, he was appointed by the Governor one of the Fund Commissioners of Indiana. He was faithful, earnest and efficient in the discharge of all these trusts. He was a successful and honorable merchant and business man, marked for his integrity and industry.

Over sixty years a Mason, the closing years of his life were spent with his family in this city, where he died in the eighty-first year of his age. His remains were interred in the cemetery at Bristol, without ceremony or display; but with the religious services of the Episcopal Church, of which he had been for many years an honored, consistent, and useful member.

I submit, Right Worshipful Grand Master, for the consideration of Grand Lodge the following resolutions:—

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania bears distinct testimony upon its record, to the purity of character, uprightness and moral worth of Right Worshipful Past Grand Master LUCIUS H. SCOTT, as a man; and to the fidelity, zeal and assiduity with which he discharged all his Masonic duties, and filled the responsible offices to which he had been elected by the voice of the Craft.

Resolved, That Grand Lodge hereby tenders its warm sympathy and sincere condolence to the widow and family of Brother SCOTT in their bereavement, rejoicing with them, at the same time, in the assurance that he has but been called from his earthly labors to an heavenly rest and refreshment.

Resolved, That as a mark of respect to his memory, the jewels and furniture of Grand Lodge be draped in mourning for six months.

Resolved, That this minute and resolutions be printed and copies sent to the widow and family of Bro. SCOTT, to the several Grand Lodges with which this Grand Lodge is in correspondence, and to each Surbordinate Lodge under this jurisdiction.